

Swimming Team in 2007–2008 season. This year the Bettendorf swimmers won 4 state championship events!

In the 200 yard medley relay the team of John Gayton, Jon Alves, Andy White, and Jake Hemberger brought home the victory for Bettendorf. In the 200 yard IM and 100 yard backstroke, John Gayton took the titles. And in the 100 yard breaststroke, Andy White was victorious.

Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Bettendorf High School Boys Swimming Team, both in and out of the pool. Perhaps Paul “Bear” Bryant, the late, great coach of the Alabama Crimson Tide football team said it best: “Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself.” This year, Bettendorf High School proved just that.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA CEN-  
TENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN  
ACT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) for almost 100 years of volunteer service to communities throughout the United States. Service projects over the years have included food drives, clothes drives and blood drives. Boy Scouts have volunteered their time at disaster relief sites, created nature trails and written letters to our brave troops overseas. In fact, participation in service activities by the Boy Scouts America are so numerous that I could not possibly mention them all here. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Boy Scouts of America for providing valuable assistance to our society and I look forward to

their continued participation in communities throughout the U.S.

Unfortunately, the Boy Scouts of America have used valuable resources to legally establish their ability to set exclusionary criteria for membership through a June 2000 Supreme Court ruling. Specifically, “the Boy Scouts of America will not employ atheist, agnostics, known or avowed homosexuals. . .” This discrimination should not be supported by the U.S. government. Congress has a responsibility to encourage equality and as such, should not commemorate any organization that engages in the practice of discrimination in any form.

Furthermore, H.R. 5872 provides that a \$10 surcharge per coin be distributed to the BSA Foundation “in the form of grants for the extension of Scouting in hard to serve areas.” I do not believe that the government should have a hand in raising funds for any organization that actively discriminates. Nor should the government raise funds for an organization that has a history of using valuable resources to legally establish the ability to maintain an exclusionary criterion for membership as the BSA has done.

As such, I must oppose this legislation. This Congress has a responsibility to defend against social injustice. Congress must set policies that demonstrate our ability to overcome, once and for all, the type of thinking that seeks to separate us.

LAKE COUNTY ELECTRICIANS  
JOINT APPRENTICESHIP AND  
TRAINING COMMITTEE BANQUET

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2008*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sincerity and admiration that I offer con-

gratulations to several of Northwest Indiana’s most talented, dedicated, and hardworking individuals. On Friday, May 30, 2008, the Lake County Electricians Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, JATC, will honor the class of 2008 at their annual Apprentice Completion Banquet, which will be held at the Avalon Manor Banquet Hall in Merrillville, Indiana.

This year, the Lake County Electricians JATC will be recognizing and honoring twenty-four graduates who have completed the apprentice training. This year’s inside wireman graduates are: Donald Bullock, Vincent Catalano, Sean Clark, Dustin Greenya, Nicholas Kozlowski, John Lucas, Daniel Marlowe, Kevin Troy Nuss, Christopher Ortell, Jordan Pierson, Christopher Porter, Brian Robbins, Caleb Smith, Timothy Soderquist, Anthony Thames, Brandon Tomassoni, David Turpin, Jr., and John Wajvoda. This year’s teledata technician graduates are: Victor Alvear, Scott Davis, John Hill, Corey Joiner, Randy Mohrs, and Jason Stanley.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. These outstanding graduates all exemplify these traits. They have mastered their trade and have demonstrated their loyalty to both the union and the community through their commitment, hard work, and selfless sacrifice.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these committed, hardworking individuals. Along with the other extraordinary men and women of Northwest Indiana’s unions, these individuals have contributed in many ways to the growth and development of the economy in Indiana’s First Congressional District, and I am very proud to represent them in Washington, DC.